

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.
WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 1864.

THE FREDMONT RAILROAD, as the new Confederate Danville extension is called, will be of vital importance in the event of the lower route via Wilmington and Weldon being seized, but it is only in that event that it can be so, from the fact that although it will furnish a double line between Richmond and Kingsville it will there unite with a single line through South Carolina. Perhaps, however, the pressure on the roads might be lightened by bringing all the freight and produce from Eastern and South Eastern Georgia, and Eastern Alabama by way of Savannah, Charleston and Florence to Wilmington, and thence via Weldon and Petersburg to Virginia, while all other freight from Georgia and points South would come by way of Augusta to Columbia, and so by the Charlotte and South Carolina Railroad, the N. C. Railroad and the Danville extension and Richmond and Danville Railroad to Richmond. There is less than ten miles of the Piedmont road to be finished.

Scandinavia.

The united Kingdoms of Sweden and Norway occupy the Peninsula known as Scandinavia, but the Danes, although their seat is on the South side of the Straits by which the Baltic opens into the Atlantic ocean, belong equally to the Scandinavian race. These three nations of Danes, Swedes and Norwegians have much more in common with each other than they have in common with their German neighbors on the South, or their Slavonic Russian neighbors on the East. "This is the genuine race of the 'Northmen,'" so celebrated in the earlier history of medieval Europe. The three Crowns of Denmark, Sweden and Norway were united from 1523 till 1814, when, owing to the tyranny of the Danes, then the dominant Scandinavian people, the Swedes were impelled to throw off the yoke, which they did under the lead of the celebrated Gustavus Vasa. Norway has at different times occupied a position of separate nationality, or has been united with Denmark or Sweden. The fact is, these three, enterprising, sea-faring peoples, Swedes, Norwegians and Danes, have much of past history in common and more of present interest, since they are all likely to be subjected in turn to the pressure of powerful, ambitious and unscrupulous neighbors. Sweden has had Finland torn from her by Russia, Denmark is threatened with dismemberment by Germany. Norway, with a free constitution, wise laws, and a happy and contented people, could hardly turn to preserve these in the event that the liberties of either Sweden, with which she is united, or Denmark, with which, until the beginning of this century, she had been united should be subverted and their nationality destroyed by foreign power.

The population of the three Scandinavian Kingdoms, excluding the Germans in Holstein, may be put down at

	Denmark	Sweden	Norway
Population	1,600,000	2,500,000	1,500,000

	ARMY	NAVY
Denmark	25,000	1,000
Sweden	45,000	3,000
Norway	25,000	1,000

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The Swedish Navy is manned by 8,000 seamen and has 256 gunboats, or frigates, in 1854. What the character of these vessels was we do not know. The Norwegians had also a large number of gunboats. We presume a great change has taken place in these, as well as other navies, within the last few years. There are probably twenty thousand seamen on board the Danish, Swedish and Norwegian navies, and three Baltic navies are not to be surpassed.

REVENUE.

	Denmark	Sweden	Norway
Revenue	\$7,500,000	\$12,000,000	\$5,000,000

Here we have a fairly homogeneous people with a joint population of 7,500,000, a military force available in case of emergency of two hundred and eighty or three hundred thousand, a navy probably numbering by this time three hundred ships of war, besides gunboats, and carrying over twenty thousand men, with a revenue of \$16,750,000, easily doubled or tripled, a debt merely nominal, all the elements and materials for ship-building, the manufacture of arms and machinery, together with active and growing commerce.

It is, in fact, well calculated to be a powerful self-sustaining nationality. Such a nationality, however, would not suit Russia, Austria, Prussia, or even England, hence the Convention held in 1814 to settle the succession to the crown of Denmark, in the event then deemed certain, that the then reigning King should die without direct heirs. It is believed that this Convention was held in London, and participated in by Austria, Prussia, and Russia, as much by way of precaution against a projected union between Denmark, Sweden and Norway, as anything else. After the last war the Danes openly canvassed the policy of placing the King of Sweden as their King on the demise of the then reigning sovereign. This it was which made the allied despots at London so anxious to guarantee the integrity of the Danish dominions, which they now possess. Russia feared to have too strong a neighbor between her and the Straits of the Baltic. Germany, aiming at the possession of Kiel, and seeking to secure a navy, wished to guard against the consolidation of the naval power of the Scandinavian nations, which would have interposed an insuperable barrier to the realization of her naval aspirations.

For a time at least, the dream of Scandinavian unity is at an end. An obscure Duke of Holstein-Glücksburg has been made King of Denmark, and his daughter has married the heir to the English crown. The English nation may be lowered and the Danish people may be betrayed, but some sort of a crown will be saved for the royal father-in-law, who must be kept at Copenhagen to the exclusion of the able, enlightened, but upstart race of the Danes, who reign on the other side of the Straits. It is worthy of note that even Denmark, the most Southern of the three Kingdoms referred to, lies in the same latitude with Labrador, and that while Denmark enjoys a temperate climate, and has much fertile land, Labrador is almost wholly barren and uninhabited by reason of its rigorous climate. Copenhagen, the capital of Denmark, is in North latitude 55 degrees 40 minutes; Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, in 59 degrees 20 minutes; and Christiania, the capital of Norway, in 59 degrees 51 minutes, latitudes which on this continent are wholly unobtainable. This difference in the isothermal line, or line of equal mean temperature, is attributed to the Gulf Stream, which is felt on the North Western coasts of Europe, and is not felt in corresponding latitudes on the North Eastern coasts of the American continent.

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It seems to be generally conceded, and is taken for granted by the last London *Index* which has reached us, that the DEMOCRAT party—the moderate Tories or conservatives—are at present in the ascendant in England, and that the present Whig Administration is only kept in power by the personal popularity of Lord PALMERSTON, and the reluctance of any party to undertake the conduct of the Government in case he should be turned out. That the Whig party is doomed to be turned out and that the occurrence of this event is simply a matter of time seems to be equally assumed. Should this event come to pass, as is predicted, then we will have a chance to see whether another foreign Secretary will treat us with a greater degree of fairness than Earl RUSSELL has shown. Our private opinion is that we will find the difference between RUSSELL and his successor to be about the same as between Tweedledum and Tweedledee, or between six and half a dozen.

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vessels have, very many of them, been transferred to other governments, and sail under other colors than the flag of the United States. We fear that this diminution is more apparent than real. The transfers are merely formal, and many a genuine Yankee ship, belonging to Yankee owners, sails under a foreign register. This is done to escape such people as SUMMERS, MAURY and MAFITT. It may take a little hard swearing, but that seems to make little difference. There is dissatisfaction in the West with LINCOLN's draft. We hear of resistance in Illinois and Indiana, and then we hear that the resistance has ceased and the difficulties have been overcome. We could sincerely hope that these things might grow into something, but have little confidence in their doing so. The enemies that we have read about so far are not encouraging. Those at their head are deficient in back bone, and those composing the rank and file of their followers are equally so. We cannot see that these things, examined coolly, are much more formidable than many movements of deserters and skulkers in the West may eventually grow into something, but as yet they are nothing, and it would be simply folly to make a fuss over them, or pretend to look for any tangible benefit to our cause as likely to arise out of them. Let us look at things as they are. We may fairly rest in the assurance that Wilmington is safe from the Yankees for some time to come. Not the most brazenly, audacious Yankee that ever followed DANIELSON "or any other man" would dare to occupy Wilmington, even if it were undefended. Just let him enter during the hour of morning market, and take one look and he would immediately clap his hands across his abdomen, and go his way in mortal dread of starvation. It would be a grand strategic move to get the Yankees in here, where they would soon be either starved to death or the Yankee exchequer would be bankrupted in the effort to buy them provisions. Why the Yankees let us alone so persistently, is explained. It seems to be generally conceded, and is taken for granted by the last London *Index* which has reached us, that the DEMOCRAT party—the moderate Tories or conservatives—are at present in the ascendant in England, and that the present Whig Administration is only kept in power by the personal popularity of Lord PALMERSTON, and the reluctance of any party to undertake the conduct of the Government in case he should be turned out. That the Whig party is doomed to be turned out and that the occurrence of this event is simply a matter of time seems to be equally assumed. Should this event come to pass, as is predicted, then we will have a chance to see whether another foreign Secretary will treat us with a greater degree of fairness than Earl RUSSELL has shown. Our private opinion is that we will find the difference between RUSSELL and his successor to be about the same as between Tweedledum and Tweedledee, or between six and half a dozen.

THE SWEDISH NAVY is manned by 8,000 seamen and has 256 gunboats, or frigates, in 1854. What the character of these vessels was we do not know. The Norwegians had also a large number of gunboats. We presume a great change has taken place in these, as well as other navies, within the last few years. There are probably twenty thousand seamen on board the Danish, Swedish and Norwegian navies, and three Baltic navies are not to be surpassed.

	Denmark	Sweden	Norway
Population	1,600,000	2,500,000	1,500,000

	ARMY	NAVY
Denmark	25,000	1,000
Sweden	45,000	3,000
Norway	25,000	1,000

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REVENUE.

	Denmark	Sweden	Norway
Revenue	\$7,500,000	\$12,000,000	\$5,000,000

Here we have a fairly homogeneous people with a joint population of 7,500,000, a military force available in case of emergency of two hundred and eighty or three hundred thousand, a navy probably numbering by this time three hundred ships of war, besides gunboats, and carrying over twenty thousand men, with a revenue of \$16,750,000, easily doubled or tripled, a debt merely nominal, all the elements and materials for ship-building, the manufacture of arms and machinery, together with active and growing commerce.

It is, in fact, well calculated to be a powerful self-sustaining nationality. Such a nationality, however, would not suit Russia, Austria, Prussia, or even England, hence the Convention held in 1814 to settle the succession to the crown of Denmark, in the event then deemed certain, that the then reigning King should die without direct heirs. It is believed that this Convention was held in London, and participated in by Austria, Prussia, and Russia, as much by way of precaution against a projected union between Denmark, Sweden and Norway, as anything else. After the last war the Danes openly canvassed the policy of placing the King of Sweden as their King on the demise of the then reigning sovereign. This it was which made the allied despots at London so anxious to guarantee the integrity of the Danish dominions, which they now possess. Russia feared to have too strong a neighbor between her and the Straits of the Baltic. Germany, aiming at the possession of Kiel, and seeking to secure a navy, wished to guard against the consolidation of the naval power of the Scandinavian nations, which would have interposed an insuperable barrier to the realization of her naval aspirations.

For a time at least, the dream of Scandinavian unity is at an end. An obscure Duke of Holstein-Glücksburg has been made King of Denmark, and his daughter has married the heir to the English crown. The English nation may be lowered and the Danish people may be betrayed, but some sort of a crown will be saved for the royal father-in-law